

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SECRET

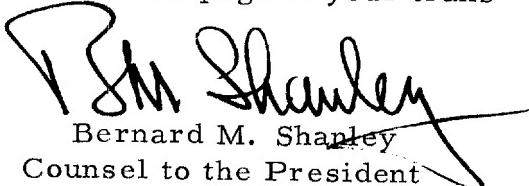
February 7, 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR

The Honorable Allen W. Dulles  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency

In connection with our discussion, attached is copy of letter from J. Lee Rankin dated February 4 advising, subject to the condition hereafter noted, that he finds no legal objection to the transmittal of your proposed letter of January 27 to Major General J. G. Christiansen or to transmittal of the memorandum referred to in the latter letter. Attached also are your proposed letter of January 27 to Major General J. G. Christiansen and memorandum from Sheffield Edwards, Director of Security, to Colonel Miller, Colonel Lane and Mr. McGruder on the subject of security office data together with attachments A through G referred to therein.

As you will note, Mr. Rankin's opinion is subject to compliance with the provisions of paragraph 5 (i) of Executive Order No. 10501. A notation calling attention to the espionage laws in addition to the assigned classification should, therefore, be printed on each page of your transmittal.

  
Bernard M. Shapley  
Counsel to the President

OGC Has Reviewed

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Mr. J. William Barba  
Assistant to the Counsel to the President  
The White House

Dear Mr. Barba:

Attached to this letter is the proposed letter from Allen W. Dulles to Major General J. T. Christiansen dated January 27, 1955, together with a memorandum classified secret giving certain security data about personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency. You requested that I advise you of the legality of furnishing the data contained in the memorandum to the Task Force on Intelligence Activities, Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, and certain named individuals.

The Commission is not exclusively within the Executive Branch of the Government, therefore, the provisions of Section 7(b) of Executive Order No. 10501 relating to safeguarding defense information are applicable to a document classified secret which is to be sent to it. This section provides that classified defense information shall not be disseminated outside the Executive Branch except under conditions and through channels authorized by the head of the disseminating department or agency. The proposed letter does not violate this section because Mr. Dulles is the head of the agency originating the information to be transmitted. It does not appear that the information or the letter violates the provisions of Section 9(c) of Executive Order No. 10450 entitled Security Requirements for Government Employment, the directive of former President Truman dated March 13, 1948, 13 F.R. 1359, relating to the release of information concerning loyalty cases, the letter of the President to Secretary of Defense Wilson dated May 17, 1954, or any other directive.

Paragraph 5(l) of Executive Order No. 10501 provides that material furnished persons not in the Executive Branch of the Government shall bear a notation calling attention to the espionage laws in addition to the assigned classification. Upon compliance with this provision, I find no legal objection to the transmittal of the proposed letter and memorandum.

Very truly yours,

J. Lee Rankin

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Office of Legal Counsel

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DRAFT

27 January 19

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General J. G. Christiansen  
Staff Director  
Task Force on Intelligence Activities  
Commission on Organization of the  
Executive Branch of the Government  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Christiansen:

I enclose herewith a memorandum classified secret, giving certain security data which you had requested from Colonel Sheffield Edwards, Director of Security.

As I mentioned to you, I have arranged with the Civil Service Commission that data of this nature with respect to the CIA would not be published in their periodic reports. Accordingly, and for the further reasons which I mentioned to you, I am transmitting this information on the understanding that it will be for the confidential information of yourself, Colonel Lane, Mr. Miller, and Mr. McGruder, and of course for the members of the Task Force, but that it would not be included in any report which might be made public, or which had a lower classification than secret.

It is my understanding of our conversation that you are in agreement with the foregoing.

Faithfully yours,

Encl.

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

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MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence  
SUBJECT: Requests of the Clark Committee

1. The Clark Committee has requested the attached information as a result of its recent inspection of this office.
2. The members of the Committee have assured me that the statistics will be appropriately protected and classified in the event these statistics are used in their report. They have also verbally assured me that they will not disclose the number of homosexuals that have been separated from the Agency.

[Redacted]  
John F. Edwards  
Director of Security

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Attachments

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